



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001
Committee Statement
LB 693

Hearing Date: February 14, 2001

Committees On: Appropriations and Health and Human Services

Introducers: (Byars, Cunningham, Engel, Erdman, Jensen, Maxwell, Price, Suttle)

Title: Provide for funding for developmental disabilities and behavioral health services under the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

16	Yes	Senator Jensen, Wehrbein, Byars, Pederson, Beutler, Cudaback, Engel, Hilgert, Suttle, Thompson, Price, Kruse, Foley, Cunningham, Maxwell and Erdman
	No	
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

Proponents:

Senator Dennis Byars
Dr. Ted DeLaet
Denis McCarville
Susan Boust
Krynn Buckley
Aleisa McKinclay
Roger Keetle
Judy Halstead
Deb Weston
Lavita Mitchell
Mary O'Hare

Bob Robinson
Doris Lassiter
Elaine Menzel
David Holmquist

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Psychological Association
Children and Family Coalition of Nebraska
Self
Nebraska Medical Association
NE Advocacy Services
NE Association of Hospitals and Health Systems
Nebraska Respite Coalition
ARC of Nebraska
Self
Governors Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities
NE Association of Private Resources
Nebraska Minority Public Health Association
Nebraska Association of County Officials
Citizens for Health NE & American Cancer Society

Opponents:

Mark Welsch

Representing:

G.A.S.P.

Neutral:

Rex Holsapple
Sheryl Scherepf
Topher Hanson

Representing:

State Investment Officer
Nebraska Behavioral Health Coalition
Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health
Organizations
Region V
AARP
Community Alliance
Nebraskans for Public Health
Nebraskans for Public Health
Nebraska Nurses Association

Jill Rubottom
Terry Workman
Carol Boye
Pat Lopez
Sheila Bjerrum
Chuck Stepaneck

Summary of purpose and/or changes: The bill relates to funding for developmental disability and behavioral health services under the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act (sections 71-7605 to 71-7614). Section 2 of the bill provides for the following annual distribution of funds from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund: (a) 10% for grants awarded by the Nebraska Health Care Council under section 71-7614, (b) 40% to the Nebraska Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Fund, and (c) the balance to be allocated by the Appropriations Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature.

Section 3 of the bill creates the Nebraska Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Fund to be appropriated annually for expenditures related to the provision of services to persons with mental illness, substance abuse or addiction disorders, developmental disabilities and acquired or traumatic brain injury. The bill provides intent to fund services for persons with developmental disabilities to address to the waiting list for such services as follows: (a) \$3 million in FY 2001-02, (b) \$5 million in FY 2002-03, and (c) \$8 million in FY 2003-04 and annually thereafter. The developmental disabilities unit within the Department of Health and Human Services is required to determine the first year funding for such use. On or before December 1, 2001 and every December 1 thereafter, the Advisory Committee on Developmental Disabilities is required to make recommendations to the Health and Human Services Committee for funding priorities to address the waiting list.

Section 4 of the bill amends section 71-7614 and limits to 10% the percentage of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund available for grants awarded by the Nebraska Health Care Council.

The bill contains the emergency clause.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Roger R. Wehrbein, Chairperson

Senator Jim Jensen, Chairperson